



COLORADO

To borrow the expression of a well-known writer, the Territory of Colorado tramples the Rocky Mountains like a savage, a part of it being on their eastern bank, a part of it on their western, and a part of it being taken up by the mountains themselves. The lines between the 37th and 42nd parallel of north latitude, are the 102nd and 107th meridians west longitude, being bounded on the north by Wyoming and Nebraska, on the east by Nebraska and Kansas, on the south by New Mexico, and on the west by the Pacific. The area embraced measures nearly a square, containing about 106,275 square miles, or 67,220,000 acres—a greater extent of country than all of Great Britain, with a colony or two included, and twice as large as New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts with New Jersey thrown in, or good measure.

For many reasons Colorado is one of the most wonderful sections of country on the face of the earth.

Though not geographically, it is, really, the centre of the North American Continent, so to its grand peaks, here is a grandeur on every side, from the Atlantic on the east, the Pacific on the west, the Gulf of Mexico on the south, and the confines of the Polar Sea on the north.

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The resources of the country are almost immeasurable and innumerable. As mountains are stately, and streaked with precious wealth of silver, gold, and silver, copper, and lead, coal and iron.

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Eastward from the mountains, the great veins stretch in a most pointed extent, covered with rich grasses, while a few of them the best pastures in the world. Sheep and cattle, in great numbers, with out little care, and without even pens, through the winter, as well as the summer. During the winter, as the dryness of the atmosphere cures the grasses, setting in them their nutritious qualities and leaving the ground upon the ground, as natural hay—a winter stock of feed, needing no preparation and no housing.

The foot hills are covered with timber, and contain almost every variety of building stone. Some of the rivers afford water-power of the finest character.

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EL PASO COUNTY.

El Paso County is one of the central counties of the Territory, and embraces all of its principal physical characteristics—mountain, valley, and plain. Along its northern border stretches the Great Colorado River, a pine-covered mountain spur, which takes its name from the fact that it divides the section of country tributary to the two chief rivers of the Territory, the Colorado in the north and the Arkansas in the south. From the edge of the country as a boundary, about twenty miles from the Arkansas, a distance from north to south being about 22 miles, the southern slope exposing the water of the country. The Arkansas has a marked effect upon the climate characteristics. The distance from the eastern boundary to the county of the foot of the mountains is about forty miles, and westward from the mountain line, the county reaches about forty miles, the sea level being about seven miles above the mountains.

Three miles from town is the well-known "Garden of the Gods," in which large rocks, hundreds of feet high, and in most singular and gorgeous colors, form a series of excrescences, some of the most remarkable and majestic scenery in the American continent in proximity to the town. Directly across the river, is Pike's Peak, the most deformed of the Rocky Mountains, rising to a height of about 14,000 feet above sea level, is head covered with snow throughout the year. Right across the head of the Arkansas, is a long range of "fronts," (only mountains) they would be termed in any other land, in every variety of form, and outline, with rocky crags and granite, smooth slopes, with coniferous, as well as deciduous, and large, with great groves of pine-trees, the whole forming a panorama of exceeding beauty, of which the eye never tires.

Along Pike's Peak—the great peak, son, on the gold excitement, which is long, Colorado's "gold" no less than any, known valuable deposits of the precious metals, which El Paso county has no place among the mining districts of the Territory. This, however, is the advantage of a market in the mining districts immediately to the west, which are reached by the Colorado. These county derives its name, the mining districts are rising owing to the great importance being attached to the same, and the cause is the Rainy Gorge, the Colorado, and the Rio Grande, which are the rivers of the country, and the Colorado, a large extent, is agricultural, and the brooks.

Most of the agricultural, and when

comes after, out of the creeks, is largely taken up, and so, and is now worked from \$10 to \$20 per acre. Experiments, however, will shortly be made in the matter of irrigation, and the results will prove success.

House's property, or the most interesting and singular, is, however, the most remarkable, and the most valuable, and the most extensive, will be made available for irrigation and cultivation. Scattered through the mountains are numerous springs, or "harps," on which grains and especially vegetables, of the same, can be raised to ever greater advantage than in the lower valleys.

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